



DEPARTMENT OF
TOXIC SUBSTANCES
CONTROL

*The mission of the
Department of Toxic
Substances Control is
to provide the
highest level of safety,
and to protect public
health and the
environment from
toxic harm.*



State of California



Cal/EPA

Proposed Cleanup Plan for former Vista Burn Dump (aka French Field) Available for Public Review and Comment

A proposed cleanup plan to address contaminated soil containing burn ash and debris is available for public review and comment. The cleanup plan, called a draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) was developed specifically for the 10 acre site located at 1300 Lee Drive in Oceanside. Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), a Notice of Exemption (NOE) was prepared, as the proposed soil activities will not have an adverse environmental impact. Our agency, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is a department within the California Environmental Protection Agency, and is responsible for overseeing environmental investigations and cleanup activities at sites such as Vista Burn Dump. There is **no** immediate health risk because the public is not exposed to the contaminated soil and groundwater at the site is not used for drinking. Also, the site is fenced and locked gates restrict public access.

This fact sheet updates you on the investigation conducted and the proposed cleanup activities planned for the former Vista Burn Dump site. Inside this fact sheet you will find:

- Why Cleanup Is Necessary
- Site Location and History
- Site Investigations Conducted
- Proposed Soil Cleanup Activities
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) – Notice of Exemption
- Next Steps
- Where to Find Site Documents

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD **November 30th through December 30th, 2010**

A 30-day public comment period is being held to receive public comments on the draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) and draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) for the former Vista Burn Dump site. The public comment period begins **November 30th, and ends December 30th, 2010**. We invite you to submit your public comments during this time. **Public comments must be postmarked or e-mailed no later than December 30th, 2010, and sent to:** Ms. Eileen Khachatourians, DTSC Project Manager, Department of Toxic Substances Control, 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA, 90630-4732, E-mail: ekhachat@dtsc.ca.gov. The draft RAW, CEQA NOE and other related project documents are available for public review at the Information Repository locations listed inside this fact sheet on page 4.



Why Cleanup Is Necessary

Vista Burn Dump, also known as French Field is comprised of three little league baseball fields on the site. The little league is known as Vista American Little League (VALL). In January 2005, dozens of VALL baseball teams that used the baseball fields for practice and home games and were relocated to other nearby fields because the burn ash and debris became exposed. Burn ash commonly contains chemicals that are known to cause risks to human health and the environment.

Sampling at the site indicated levels of burn ash and debris in surface and subsurface soil were at levels above DTSC's protective standards and require cleanup to protect human health and the environment. DTSC will oversee the removal action and ensure work is performed in a manner that does not harm people or the environment.

Site Location and History

The site is roughly ten (10) acres and triangular in shape, bounded by Loma Alta Creek and San Diego Northern Railway railroad line to the north and west, by Lee Drive and a metal recycling facility (Lee's Metal Recycling) to the east, and by a business park to the south. The site is currently owned by the City of Oceanside and is leased to VALL. French Field is located on the former landfill which operated as a burn dump by the County of San Diego from 1944 to early 1966, when the site was closed with a soil cover. In March 1974, the property was leased to the Vista Bobby Sox, which by adding more cover material, developed the site into baseball fields and used them until about 1989. In 1993, VALL leased the site and further developed the area using the baseball fields until January 2005. At that time and out of conservative caution, the City of Oceanside and City of Vista closed the baseball fields until a full environmental investigation could be conducted under the oversight of DTSC.

Site Investigations Conducted (SWAT Report)

In June 2002, the California Regional Water Quality Board (RWQCB) issued an Order to the County of San Diego requiring a solid waste water quality assessment test (SWAT) be

performed at French Field. SWAT tests are investigations that are common for closed landfills. In 2004, the County of San Diego hired an environmental consultant who conducted the SWAT investigation. In April 2005, the final SWAT report indicated elevated levels of lead were present in surface and subsurface soil on site, especially at or near Loma Alta Creek, and on the slopes between the baseball fields. The SWAT report also indicates impacts to groundwater are minimal. The groundwater impacts do not require further action in the form of monitoring. Groundwater is **not** migrating from the site nor is it a source of drinking water at or around French Field.

Site Investigations Conducted (PEA)

The cities of Oceanside and Vista wanted to ensure French Field did not present any unacceptable risk to children or staff present at or playing on French Field. Therefore, in early 2005 the Cities retained their own environmental consultants to conduct a site investigation for the site. The PEA report describes the results of soil, soil gas, groundwater, ambient air, surface water and sediment investigations. Sampling results revealed the presence of metals, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), dioxins and furans. The PEA report also evaluated any risk to human health and the environment that may exist at the site, and recommendations for remedial (cleanup) actions.

These site investigations found ponding water on the site, exposed trash by the baseball fields, erosion and exposed trash along Loma Alta Creeks, steep slopes with exposed waste between ball fields, and small fragments of glass and wire in areas where excavation had occurred to set bases on the baseball fields.

In October 2005, the City of Oceanside, under a Voluntary Cleanup Agreement (VCA) retained DTSC for review and approval of the PEA and environmental investigation activities conducted. Information obtained from the PEA investigation activities was forwarded to DTSC for review and approval. In January 2009, the VCA was amended to allow for further action beyond the

PEA report and for DTSC oversight of proposed cleanup activities planned for the site. In July 2008, DTSC approved the final PEA report which recommended further action be implemented for the site.

Proposed Soil Cleanup Activities

The approved PEA report includes remedial (cleanup) recommendations for the site which was developed to ensure full little league baseball use of French Field. Information from the PEA was used to develop the draft RAW evaluation and selection of removal alternatives. The proposed preferred alternative is containment through consolidation, surface cap implementation and institutional controls on the following areas:

Ball Fields (the 3 baseball diamonds) – A one (1) foot layer of clean soil be added to the ball field area to prevent exposure to low levels of lead and other potential contaminants and to physical hazards posed by small fragments of waste material.

Slope Area (the area between upper and lower baseball diamonds) – The slope area between the ball fields would be stabilized with concrete and shotcrete to prevent erosion of exposed waste.

Parking Area (including paved area of parking lot and Loma Alta Creek) – The parking and creek area would be paved to prevent exposure to the contaminated soil. Some impacted sediment from Loma Alta Creek would be removed and consolidated under the pavement in the parking and creek area. Banks of the Loma Alta Creek would be graded and covered with concrete and shotcrete to prevent erosion of exposed waste.

Lee's Yard (Lee's Metal Recycling) – Lee's Yard area would immediately implement proper management of hazardous waste, implement and maintain storm water best management practices, remove contaminated solids from prior spills, and extend the concrete cap to cover the entire metal recycling operation.

After the removal action is complete, institutional controls would be implemented that will limit the potential for future breaching of the cap. These

cap and containment activities, if implemented, will reduce the potential for human exposure and health risk related to burn ash and dump debris.

Safety and Dust Control Measures

To protect on-site workers and the surrounding community during the proposed removal action activities, the following safety measures will be implemented under DTSC oversight:

Site Security – The site will be secured and only authorized personnel will be allowed on-site.

Dust Control – Water will be sprayed during excavation and grading to control dust and to ensure dust remains at safe levels. The amount of water used to control dust is not anticipated to result in surface water runoff or standing water. Any stockpiled soil will also be sprayed with water and covered with plastic sheeting to avoid any fugitive dust. Trucks entering and leaving the site will be brushed of truck tire.

Monitoring – Dust, wind speed and wind direction will be monitored to ensure dust suppression efforts are effective.

Traffic Control – There will be little traffic impacts since truck traffic will occur during non-peak times to avoid rush hour traffic. There will be approximately 96 trucks traveling to the site per day for a duration of 15 days. No soil or debris will be transported off the site because all truck tires will be cleaned prior to leaving the site. Only clean soil will be brought onto the site to provide for the cap in certain areas of the site. The clean soil will be brought from the El Corazon borrow site and will travel west along Oceanside Boulevard; southeast on Temple Heights Drive; northeast on North avenue; North on Lee Drive to the site.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

DTSC is required under CEQA to review environmental activities for the possibility of impacts before approving the project. DTSC prepared a Notice of Exemption (NOE). This is our finding that the proposed soil activities will not have an adverse impact on public health and the environment.

How You Can Participate

DTSC encourages you to review the draft RAW. A 30-day public comment period for the draft RAW and draft NOE begins **November 30th, 2010 and ends December 30th, 2010**. You may provide your comments on the draft RAW during this period. All public comments must be postmarked or e-mailed by **December 30th, 2010** and sent to:

Eileen Khachatourians, Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
E-mail: ekchat@dtsc.ca.gov

We will consider and respond to all public comments received during the public comment period before implementing field work.

Where To Find Site Documents

The draft RAW and other supporting project documents (SWAT Report, PEA Report, CEQA NOE) can be viewed at the following Information Repositories:

Oceanside Public Library
330 N. Coast Highway
Oceanside, CA 92054-2824
(760) 435-5560
Mon – Tues: 9:00 am – 8:00 pm
Wed – Sat: 9:00 am – 5:30 p.m.
Sun: Closed

Vista Branch Library
700 Eucalyptus Avenue
Vista, CA 92084-6245
(760) 643-5100
Mon – Thurs: 9:30 am – 8:00 pm
Fri – Sat: 9:30 am – 5:00 pm
Sun: 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Department of Toxic Substances Control
Regional Records Office
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
Phone (714) 484-5337
Hours: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday – Friday
Please Contact Ms. Julie Johnson at the number above to make an appointment.

Who to Contact at DTSC for Information

For more information about the Vista Burn Dump site, please contact:

Eileen Khachatourians, Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
(714) 484-5349
E-mail: ekhachat@dtsc.ca.gov

Stacey Lear, Public Participation Specialist
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
(714) 484-5354 or toll free 1-866-495-5651
E-mail: slear@dtsc.ca.gov

Next Steps

If approved, RAW activities are anticipated to begin early January 2011 and take about 2-3 weeks to complete. RAW activities and ball field construction will occur daily between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm. No road closures or traffic impacts are anticipated to occur.

The City of Oceanside, the City of Vista and the County of San Diego are cooperating to complete the proposed cleanup activities necessary to safely reopen the little league baseball fields. You may contact these entities for more information about their plans to reopen French Field in the near future.

*For more information about the Vista Burn Dump site visit www.EnviroStor.dtsc.ca.gov.
For more information about our department, please visit our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov.*

Notice to Hearing Impaired

TDD users can contact the California Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 to reach Stacey Lear, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (714) 484-5354 or toll-free 1-866-495-5651.

For Media Inquiries

Sandra Friedman
Public Information Officer
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
(714) 484-5383
E-mail: sfriedma@dtsc.ca.gov

**NOTICE OF 30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR
DRAFT REMOVAL ACTION WORKPLAN AND DRAFT NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
FOR THE VISTA BURN DUMP SITE, OCEANSIDE, CA**

Reminder: All public comments on either draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) and draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) must be postmarked or e-mailed by December 30th, 2010.

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Stacey Lear, Public Participation Specialist

Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, California 90630-4732

Inside: Information on the Vista Burn Dump Site (aka French Field), Oceanside, CA

For more information about the DTSC, please visit our web site at www.dtsc.ca.gov